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News Summary

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'VERDICT IS STILL OUT'

New Chemical Experiments Partly Confirm the Possibility of Achieving Fusion in a Flask, but Skepticism Continues

By KIM A. McDONALD

DALLAS

Several groups of scientists reported last week that they had at least partially confirmed the astonishing results of two chemists who claimed to have sustained a nuclear-fusion reaction in a flask.

The new findings raised the possibility that the mysterious phenomenon, widely thought impossible by scientists a month ago, could in fact be real.

But chemists who gathered here last week to discuss the experiments remained puzzled over how the energy-generating process could possibly be produced, conceding that the results thus far had generated more confusion than concrete examples of fusion.

"It is unprecedented to see a chemical reaction affecting something nuclear," said Allen J. Bard, director of the laboratory of electrochemistry at the University of Texas at Austin. "I think the verdict is still out."

Because most of the chemists working feverishly to duplicate the phenomenon have seen nothing at all, skepticism abounds within the scientific community over the new reports. Adding to the confusion is the fact that whatever is producing the unusual reaction is unlike any nuclear or chemical phenomenon scientists have seen.

But efforts to explain the puzzle of fusion-in-a-flask and the

Continued on Page A10

PHOTOGRAPH FOR THE CHRONICLE BY JAMES KNOWLES, PICTURE GROUP

B. Stanley Pons, as he told chemists last week in Dallas he was convinced that nuclear fusion had been produced.

High Hopes for Bush and Cavazos Have Evaporated, Many Say

By ROBIN WILSON

WASHINGTON

A growing number of education officials and politicians say their high hopes for educational improvements under President Bush and Education Secretary Lauro F. Cavazos have evaporated.

They characterize the new Administration's education plans as largely symbolic and shortsighted, they question whether Mr. Cavazos is sufficiently knowledgeable and politically astute for the job, and they worry that the President has squandered what they believed would be the best opportunity in a decade to re-examine the federal role in education.

"George Bush has wanted to be the 'Education President,' but in so doing he's really wanted a kind of stable, not-many-changes, let's-create-a-positive-climate-around-education approach," says Michael D. Edwards, manager of Congressional relations for the National Education Association.

Bipartisan Criticism

Most of the criticism of the Administration's record on education centers on Mr. Cavazos, who was appointed by President Reagan in September and was retained by Mr. Bush. Although many educators say the Secretary has been gracious, they also say he ducks controversy rather than confronting pressing problems in education.

The criticism is bipartisan and comes even from within the Administration itself. One Administration official describes Mr. Cavazos as "a nice, kind fellow," but adds that under his leadership, the department is "fumbling, bumbling, and blundering."

Observers say other shortcomings have tarnished the Administration's record:

- Of the 15 top positions in the Educa-

Continued on Page A24

U. of Iowa Chief Sparks a Firestorm With Challenge to NCAA to Bar Freshmen From Sports Within 3 Years

By DOUGLAS LEDERMAN

The president of the University of Iowa has vowed that the university will unilaterally bar freshmen from playing intercollegiate sports if a similar step is not taken at the national or regional level within three years. The declaration, by President Hunter R. Rawlings, III, was condemned by Iowa's Governor, and the university's football coach threatened to resign.

Mr. Rawlings, who first commented about freshman ineligibility in the Des Moines *Register*, said in an interview last week that in speaking out, he was seeking to focus attention not so much on the "hypothetical of what we *might* do, as on working hard to stimulate change nationally." He said he believed presidents must be willing to take strong stands if big-time college sports are to be reformed.

But he may not have anticipated the firestorm that would erupt from his promise of unilateral action. Iowa's Governor, Terry E. Branstad, the Iowa football coach, Hayden Fry, and some supporters of the university's teams criticized Mr. Rawlings's stand because they feared that acting alone would cripple the university's ability to compete in sports at the national level. Coach Fry said he would resign if Mr. Rawlings did not back away from his vow.

In a statement to the Board of Regents last week, Mr. Rawlings said he did not

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National U. of El Salvador Endures Bloody Civil War

The strife- and disaster-torn national University of El Salvador faces a hostile new government: Page A37.

MARGINALIA

Ad in the *Daily Iowan*:

You are cordially invited to an
OPEN HOUSE
to celebrate the Fifth Anniversary of
KRUI 89.7FM
to be held Thursday, 30 March, 1989 from 4-7 pm in the KRUI *Office Second Floor, South Quadrangle. We look forward to your presents.*

Aren't you being a bit presumptuous?

■

Here are more responses to a reader's question, "If university departments were to start radio stations, what would their call letters be?"

From Nancy B. DuMont, of the University System of New Hampshire ("While I should be spending time on far weightier issues, I could not help but respond"):

Career services: WJOB
Bursar (collections): WDUE
Counseling: WBOK
Graduate admissions: WGRE
Health services: WILL
Animal sciences: WMOO
Athletics: WJOK
Chapel: WGOD

And from Phyllis M. Ford, of Michigan State University:

Optometry: KICU
Entomology: WCDB
Physical plant: KNRG

■

Notice in a University of Iowa job bulletin:

"COUNSELORS, BA degree for day a.m. and p.m. shifts, AA degree or junior standing required or experience with emotionally disturbed children for 11:00 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. shifts only. Salary range: $13,872-$167,872".

That's the nighttime differential, probably.

■

From *System*, a magazine from the University System of Georgia:

"What do you do when you throw a little party for 400 of your nearest and dearest friends—only to have twice that number actually show up?

"First, you say a prayer. You pray that the food and drink hold out. . . .

"The occasion was Georgia Southern College's fourth annual Wild Game Supper, an event much anticipated by the state's lawmakers, higher educators and other notables.

"Fortunately, the food did hold out, thanks to the earlier enterprise of some important people. U. S. Rep. Lindsay Thomas and a delegation of Savannah businessmen provided four wild hogs that yielded 400 pounds of beef."

Never underestimate the ingenuity of a hungry Congressman.

■

Headline in the Duke University *Chronicle*:

INDIAN ACTIVIST JACOBS TO BE EXPEDITED TO NORTH CAROLINA

By airline or Amtrak? —C.G.

In Brief

Improved Public-Service Training Sought by Bok

The president of Harvard University, Derek Bok, last week called for new approaches to the education of public servants that would help "create a quality of government equal to the challenges we face."

"The principal challenge in the period ahead," Mr. Bok said in his annual report to the university's Board of Overseers, "will be to add those forms of education that will help government officials move beyond being mere bureaucrats and technicians to become the kinds of human beings to whom we would willingly entrust decisions that affect our lives."

To that end, he called on universities and, in particular, Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government, to concentrate on teaching students about the humane and moral perspectives of policymaking.

1,111 Research Animals Abducted by Activists

Members of an animal-rights group abducted 1,111 animals and caused property damage worth $115,000 at four research buildings at the University of Arizona this month.

Members of the Animal Liberation Front said in a statement that they had set fire to one of the three laboratories they had broken into. They also said they had set fire to the university's animal-research office. The group said the animals they abducted would be placed in homes.

Michael Cusanovich, vice-president for research at the university, said animal research there was conducted in strict compliance with federal laws and regulations and with the regulations of the American Association for Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care.

The Animal Liberation Front statement said: "The quality or cleanliness of the cages is not the issue: holding animals against their will for our own poisoned curiosity and profit must end."

Senator Howell Heflin, the Alabama Democrat who has introduced a bill to make it a federal crime to vandalize animal-research laboratories, toured the university's damaged buildings.

Theater Festival Picks 5 Winners

WASHINGTON

The five winners of this year's American College Theater Festival competition are being staged here this week at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Two of the plays are new works written by students, while the others are campus productions of existing plays. More than 800 productions were entered in the competition.

The two original productions are *Blue Collar Blues*, by Denise Kay Dillard of the University of Minnesota at Duluth, and *Oscar*, by Brian Nissen of the California Institute of the Arts. *Blue Collar Blues* chronicles the dismantling of a factory town, while *Oscar* is a memoir of life in Berlin during the Nazi era.

The other winners are:

- Illinois State University's production of *A Raisin In The Sun*, by Lorraine Hansberry.
- Louisiana State University's production of *Fool for Love*, by Sam Shepard.
- The University of Alaska's production of *Tracers*, a play written by a group of Vietnam veterans.

Dance at Florida A&M U. Ends in Fights, Gunfire

Fights that broke out during a fraternity-sponsored dance at Florida A&M University ended in gunfire outside a campus gymnasium. Fifteen people were arrested.

One university student was among those arrested by police, who quelled the disturbances, said Eddie Jackson, a Florida A&M spokesman.

Mr. Jackson said the 14 non-students arrested were part of a rowdy crowd kept outside the dance after the gymnasium had reached its capacity of 3,500 people. One campus police officer was injured in the fights, which spread inside the building when police called an end to the dance.

Police recovered three guns from those arrested, Mr. Jackson said. Shots were fired in the air and into a police car during the unrest, he said.

Frederick S. Humphries, president of the university, has banned all fraternity and sorority parties for the rest of the semester, Mr. Jackson said. The president will also appoint a committee to make recommendations about the future of the Greek system.

Police Say Texas Student Died in Cult Ritual

The body of a premedical student from the University of Texas at Austin who disappeared while on spring break last month was discovered in a mass grave last week near the Mexican border town of Matamoros.

Authorities said the student, Mark Kilroy, had been murdered by drug dealers taking part in a series of ritualistic killings.

Mr. Kilroy disappeared after becoming separated from three college friends with whom he had gone to Matamoros for the evening. Investigators believe his killers were ordered to find a student on spring break and to bring him to a ranch outside of Matamoros so he could be sacrificed.

As of late last week, five men had confessed to taking part in the killings, saying the satanic rituals were intended to protect them from authorities. Investigators were still searching for the leader of the cult.

8 Leave Chicago College After Investigation

One lecturer has been fired and seven tenured professors have voluntarily left their posts after an investigation into grading improprieties at Malcolm X College of the City Colleges of Chicago.

An eighth professor has been suspended for four weeks as a result of the investigation, conducted by the college system's central office.

Helene Hartman, vice-chancellor for external affairs for the system, said the faculty members had been charged with violating administrative practices. She said "operatives" had registered for classes at Malcolm X and had received grades—some of them A's—even though they never attended classes.

Ms. Hartman said investigators had not determined a motive for the professors' actions. She said federal prosecutors in Chicago had subpoenaed investigators' records for use in possible criminal investigations.

Kansas President Quits in Wake of Allegations

The president of Dodge City Community College has resigned after being suspended for alleged misuse of college expense accounts.

Gay Dahn, president of the Kansas college since 1984, said he would terminate his contract on June 30 and would reimburse the college for $477 in gifts he bought for consultants to the college.

Mr. Dahn, who maintained the gifts were proper because they had been given in lieu of paid

Judge Upholds Stanford's Dismissal of Graduate Student

SAN FRANCISCO

A judge on the San Francisco Superior Court has decided that Stanford University used adequate procedures when it dismissed Steven W. Mosher from its doctoral program in anthropology in 1983.

The judge did not rule, however, on a claim by Mr. Mosher that the university defamed him after dismissing him for "illegal and seriously unethical conduct" during anthropological field work in China in 1979-80.

As a Stanford graduate student, Mr. Mosher conducted research for nine months in a farming village near Guangzhou (Canton). During and after his stay, Chinese officials complained to Stanford that Mr. Mosher had, among other things, made use of classified documents, brought a van and a research assistant into the country without authorization, and traveled without permission in a remote region of the country that was off limits to unauthorized foreign visitors.

After he left China in June 1980, Mr. Mosher further angered the Chinese government when he published an article critical of the country's population-control policy, including the practice of forced abortions.

JOHN C. PHILLIPS

Steven W. Mosher: He sued Stanford in 1986.

Action Upheld 3 Times

His dismissal from Stanford's anthropology program in February 1983 was upheld through three appeals, including a final one to Stanford's president, Donald Kennedy.

Mr. Kennedy in fact cleared Mr. Mosher of many of the charges against him, and acknowledged that others had been based on insufficient evidence. But he upheld the dismissal nonetheless, accusing Mr. Mosher of "deliberate disregard for the host country" and a "serious lack of candor" in his dealings with the university and with Chinese officials.

Mr. Mosher sued the university in 1986 for violation of free speech, defamation, and breach of contract, among other things. A federal district court last year dismissed Mr. Mosher's claim that his constitutional right of free speech had been abridged and sent the case back to state court.

The Superior Court ruled earlier this month that, since Stanford's adjudication process had been appropriate, the case need not be re-examined. The court dismissed all the claims against the university except defamation, which will be decided at a later date.

Mr. Mosher, a resident scholar at the Heritage Foundation in Washington, could not be reached for comment.

—ELLEN K. COUGHLIN

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Students

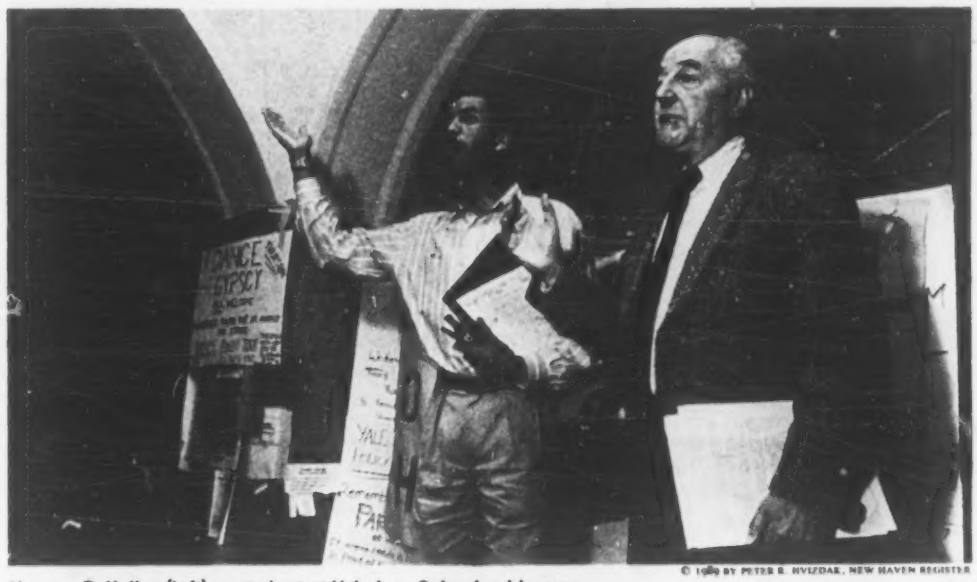
Law-School Students Protest Scarcity of Female and Minority Professors

By COURTNEY LEATHERMAN

Law-school students around the country are uniting to prod their institutions to hire more women and minority-group members as professors.

As part of the effort, hundreds of law-school students on more than 20 campuses took part in a "Nationwide Law Student Strike" this month, demonstrating and boycotting classes. Participants said they were protesting a lack of ethnic and racial diversity in law-school faculties.

Administrators cited stepped-up efforts to recruit minority faculty members as evidence that they share the students' concerns. But they said minority professors were still difficult to find.



© 1989 BY PETER B. HVIZDAK, NEW HAVEN REGISTER

Keenan R. Keller (left), a student at Yale Law School, addresses demonstrators as the school's dean, Guido Calabresi, stands by.

Role as Mentors

The students said that law professors who are female, black, Hispanic, Asian-American, or American Indian served as mentors to minority students and brought first-hand experience with racial and ethnic issues to the classroom. Until law-school faculties have more minority members, the students added, administrators will continue to find it difficult to recruit minority students.

The students also said if they were not exposed to professors from various racial backgrounds, the shortage of lawyers serving the growing U.S. minority population would become more serious.

Said Julie Derwinski, a second-year law student at the University of California at Berkeley: "Professors teach what they want to teach. Consequently, because faculties are not diverse, they're leading us down the corporate path."

Students who do hope to serve minority groups said the absence of minority professors hurt their ability to prepare for their careers.

Said Loretta P. Martinez, a first-year law student at Harvard University: "Hispanics have traditionally sought to teach in areas ignored by the legal profession, such as immigration law and poverty law."

'A Gap in the Curriculum'

She said that no Hispanic had ever been granted tenure by Harvard's law school. "Their absence here creates a gap in the curriculum," she said. "Therefore, the needs of the community are going to be ill served and we as students will be ill prepared to serve our communities."

Ms. Martinez was among 125 Harvard students who staged a "study-in" in an administration building, protesting what they called Harvard's poor efforts to recruit members of minority groups, particularly Hispanics. Of Harvard's 61 tenured professors, six are female and three are black. Two other black professors are on tenure track.

James Vorenberg, Harvard's law dean, said the university had not been lax in its efforts to hire minority and female faculty members.

The strike was promoted by student members of the Coalition for a Diverse Faculty at Berkeley, where more than 200 protesters gathered and most students boycotted classes. Forty-six students were arrested on suspicion of trespassing after they occupied administrative offices.

"We showed the faculty and administration we were concerned with these issues and we want changes," said Ms. Derwinski, a member of the coalition. "We don't feel the process we had used before—that is, dialogue—had been effective."

Activities to mark the strike varied from campus to campus. At the University of Chicago, for instance, 20 law students participated in an "Awareness Day" discussion. At Yale University, 200 law students boycotted classes and jammed an administration building. At least five Yale faculty members canceled classes to support the effort.

Yale administrators said nine of the 14 tenure-track faculty members hired in the last 10 years are women or minority-group members, as are five of the law school's 53 tenured professors.

Recruiting Called Difficult

Most law-school administrators acknowledged that the number of minority faculty members was too low. But recruiting professors from minority groups for tenure-track positions is difficult, they said, because so few minority-group members are "in the pipeline."

Said M. Michael Sharlot, associate dean for academic affairs at the University of Texas School of Law: "The pool of applicants to no degree resembles the demographics of the United States. You have a large number of schools each seeking qualified minority and female faculty members."

But Michael A. Olivas, a Mexican-American professor of law at the University of Houston Law Center, said he did not buy arguments that minority faculty members are in short supply.

"It's simply a crock," he said at a rally at the University of Texas on the day of the strike. "It's simply inconceivable to me that you can't find Hispanics to go into teaching."

However difficult recruiting minority professors may be, students and some administrators agreed that law schools must offer racially and ethnically diverse faculties if they hope to attract minority students to their institutions and the profession.

Said James M. Douglas, chairman of the minority-affairs committee of the Law School Admissions Council: "There is a direct relationship between law schools' abilities to attract minority students and their abilities to attract minority faculty members. I don't think a law school without a lot of minority faculty members can ever hope to have a lot of minority students." Mr. Douglas is dean of the law school at Texas Southern University.

Plea to Maintain Pressure

Officials of the Association of American Law Schools said that 861 prospective faculty members had filed applications with the organization this year—618 of them white, 51 of them black, and 21 of them Hispanic. The rest were members of other minority groups or did not state their racial background. The applicants included 194 women, 590 men, and 77 people who did not state their sex.

The protesters said they would continue hammering at the issue. "History has shown that minority and women hires only occur when student protests peak," said Steven C. Gonzales, a first-year law student at Berkeley. "If we can't maintain student pressure, we won't maintain the focus on this issue."

Katherine S. Mangan contributed to this article.

Small Percentage of Disabled Youths Enroll in College, Study Finds

By JEAN EVANGELAUF

SAN FRANCISCO

Young people with disabilities are far less likely to enroll in postsecondary institutions than are those without handicaps, according to a report of a national survey.

That finding should merit "serious and immediate" attention by policymakers because disabled people who do not pursue higher education may have difficulty making "meaningful connections in the world of work or independent living," said Paul M. Butler-Nalin, a policy analyst at the research and consulting company that conducted the study, SRI International, and one of the authors of the report.

Nationally, about 56 per cent of all young people attend some type of postsecondary institution within a few years after leaving high school. Among the disabled, however, only about 15 per cent of high-school graduates and dropouts enroll in a vocational program or in a two-year or four-year college, according to the report.

Not a Single Group

The postsecondary-education participation rate of the handicapped varies by disability. "It's really misleading to talk about youth with disabilities as one group," said Mr. Butler-Nalin. Those with vision, hearing, or speech impairments are the most likely to continue their education, he said, while those with multiple handicaps are the least likely to go on.

In exploring factors associated with a person's decision to enroll in a postsecondary institution, the researchers found that the people most likely to attend had graduated from high school, had not exhibited disciplinary problems in school, and had participated in group activities.

Educators should be aware of those factors to identify "at risk" students, Mr. Butler-Nalin said. "It's particularly important for these special-education kids, because postsecondary-education institutions are where many of them can get ability- and disability-specific training or additional support.

"If they don't do well in high school, they will suffer many of the same consequences that non-disabled youths suffer, but they've got one strike against them," he continued.

An estimated 10 per cent of the school-age population has a disability, he said.

Mr. Butler-Nalin presented the findings here last month at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association.

Participation Rate of Disabled Students in Colleges and Vocational Schools

	Number of respondents	All post-secondary	Four-year colleges	Two-year colleges	Vocational schools
Learning disabled	421	16.0%	1.6%	4.9%	11.1%
Emotionally disturbed	265	15.6	0.8	4.5	13.0
Mentally retarded	339	8.8	0.3	1.1	8.2
Speech impaired	176	28.7	5.2	15.5	11.1
Visually impaired	228	31.0	15.2	9.3	8.3
Deaf	296	34.9	9.5	14.5	12.6
Hard of hearing	217	26.0	4.8	13.3	9.1
Orthopedically impaired	208	19.9	4.4	9.1	6.8
Other health impaired	126	25.3	6.1	11.0	10.2
Multiply handicapped	136	4.2	0.0	2.4	1.1
Deaf and blind	136	9.6	0.0	0.0	10.0
Total	2,437	15.0	1.8	4.5	10.4

Note: The statistics are based on data from the federally sponsored National Longitudinal Transition Study of Special Education Students. They cover 2,437 disabled people who either graduated from high school or dropped out of high school in 1985-86 and 1986-87. The figures include those who enrolled in a postsecondary institution on a part-time or full-time basis for any period from the time they left school through the summer of 1987. A student may be counted in more than one type of institution.

SOURCE: SRI INTERNATIONAL

Figures May Be Underestimated

The findings on postsecondary participation are based on records of 2,437 people who left high school in 1985-86 and 1986-87. The figures include those who took at least one course at a postsecondary institution from the time they left high school through the summer of 1987.

The researchers cautioned that the figures may somewhat underestimate participation because the study counted as non-participants those leaving high school in the spring of 1987 who planned to continue their education in the fall of 1987.

Along with Mr. Butler-Nalin, the authors of the survey report were Camille Marder and Debra M. Shaver, both SRI researchers.